## Case 2336

# *Chelonus* Panzer, 1806 (Insecta, Hymenoptera) and *Anomala* Samouelle, 1819 (Insecta, Coleoptera): proposed conservation

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**Abstract.** The purpose of this application is to conserve the name *Chelonus* Panzer, 1806 for a braconid wasp. It is threatened by a junior subjective synonym, *Anomala* von Block, 1799, unused since its proposal, which is also a senior homonym of a large coleopteran genus, *Anomala* Samouelle, 1819. Conservation of the latter is also requested.

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1. In 1799 von Block (p. 119) proposed the genus *Anomala* (with a single new species, *Anomala integra*) for a Braconid wasp. The name has never been used again; no type specimen exists, but the figure and description correspond to *Chelonus oculator* sensu Herrich-Schäffer (1838), nec Fabricius (1775) and Panzer (1799).

2. The generic name *Chelonus* Panzer, 1806 (p. 99, type species by designation by Curtis (1837, p. 672) *Ichneumon oculator* Fabricius, 1775 (p. 338)) is now used for a cosmopolitan group of more than 400 described species parasitic on the caterpillars of many families of moths, often of economic importance. *Chelonus* is the basis of the family-group name CHELONINAE Foerster, 1862, included in the BRACONIDAE. A representative list of publications referring to *Chelonus* has been given to the Commission Secretariat.

3. *Anomala* von Block, 1799 is a senior homonym of *Anomala* Samouelle, 1819 (p. 191) (Coleoptera), a name used for about 1000 described species, some well-known, in the SCARABAEIDAE. The type species of *Anomala* Samouelle is *Melolontha frischii* Fabricius, 1775 (p. 37) by monotypy.

4. A possible difficulty with *Anomala* Samouelle, 1819 arises from subjective synonymy with *Euchlora* Macleay, 1819 (type species *Melolontha viridis* Fabricius, p. 34). *Anomala* Samouelle can definitely be dated from June 1819, as recorded in the lists published in the *Transactions of the Linnean Society of London*, **12**: 592. Macleay's *Euchlora* was published in the Appendix (p. 147) to the first part of his *Horae Entomologicae*, dated 1819 on the frontispiece. In the volume before the Appendix, and also in the Appendix itself, are references (with page numbers) to a paper by Kirby (1818); Mr R. D. Pope (*British Museum (Natural History)*) has pointed out to me that this indicates a publication date for *Euchlora* after June 1819, making it junior to *Anomala* Samouelle.

5. A revived usage of *Anomala* von Block, 1799, would lead to abandonment of its junior synonym *Chelonus* Panzer, 1806 and of its homonym *Anomala* Samouelle, 1819, thereby destabilizing the names of large and well-known genera in both Hymenoptera and Coleoptera.

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

(1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the generic name *Anomala* von Block, 1799 for the purposes of both the Principle of Priority and the Principle of Homonymy;

(2) to place the following names on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:
   (a) *Anomala* Samouelle, 1819 (gender: feminine), type species by monotypy, *Melolontha frischii* Fabricius, 1775;
   (b) *Chelonus* Panzer, 1806 (gender: masculine), type species by designation by Curtis (1837), *Ichneumon oculator* Fabricius, 1775;

(3) to place the following names on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
   (a) *frischii* Fabricius, 1775, as published in the binomen *Melolontha frischii* (specific name of the type species of *Anomala* Samouelle, 1819);
   (b) *oculator* Fabricius, 1775, as published in the binomen *Ichneumon oculator* (specific name of the type species of *Chelonus* Panzer, 1806);

(4) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology the name *Anomala* von Block, 1799, as suppressed in (1) above.

## References

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